

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 07922 061006Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
IO-13 ACDA-12 EB-08 COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 OES-09
DOE-15 SOE-02 INT-05 /131 W
-----121459 061008Z /21

P R 060927Z SEP 78
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3323
INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG
USLO PEKING
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 7922

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, JA, KS
SUBJECT: FOREIGN MINISTER'S VIEWS ON KOREA-JAPAN MINISTERIAL MEETING

REF: SEOUL 7851

1. AFTER A DISCUSSION OF OTHER MATTERS SEPTEMBER 6 FORMIN GAVE ME AN ACCOUT OF THE RECENT KOREA-JAPAN MINISTERIAL MEETING WHICH ACCORDS CLOSELY WITH THAT PRESENTED REFTEL. HE NOTED THAT TWO MAIN SUBJECTS WERE SECURITY AND TRADE. ON TRADE THE ISSUE WAS THE CURRENT IMBALANCE AND THE FORMIN SAID IT WAS AGREED THAT A MEETING SPECIFICALLY ON THIS TOPIC WOULD BE HELD LATER IN THE YEAR. ASKED IF THE JAPANESE HAD COMMITTED THEMSELVES TO ANY ACTION, THE FORMIN SMILED AND SAID THEY HAD ONLY COMMITTED THEMSELVES TO "TRYING TO IMPROVE THE SITUATION".

2. FORMIN SAID THAT IN HIS PRIVATE SESSION WITH FORMIN SONODA THE LATTER HAD EXPRESSED THE VIEW THAT THERE SHOULD BE INCREASED CONTACTS BETWEEN JAPAN AND KOREA AND UNDERTOOK TO HELP CREATE OPPORTUNITIES. HE FURTHER REASSURED FORMIN THAT PFT WOULD NOT AFFECT GOJ POSITION WITH REGARD TO NORTH

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KOREA. FORMIN SAID HE MADE STRONG REPRESENTATION TO SONODA ON QUESTION OF JAPANESE POSITION TOWARD NORTH KOREA AND URGED PRIOR CONSULTATION BEFORE ANY ACTION IS TAKEN.

3. I ASKED FORMIN IF QUESTION OF OFFSHORE OIL EXPLORATION HAD ARISEN SINCE IT SEEMED IMPORTANT THAT JAPANESE HELP MANAGE THIS ISSUE WITH CHINA. FORMIN SAID THAT SONODA

HAD TOLD HIM THAT CHINESE HAD NOT RAISED QUESTION OF THE
JOINT ZONE DURING THE RECENT DISCUSSIONS IN PEKING LEADING
TO PFT. SONODA HAD CONCLUDED RATHER CONFIDENTLY FROM
THIS THAT THE CHINESE DID NOT INTEND TO MAKE AN ISSUE
AT THIS POINT. FORMIN ASKED U.S. POSITION AND I EXPLAINED
THAT OUR POLICY WAS CURRENTLY UNDER REVIEW.
GLEYSTEN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PERSONAL OPINION, SECURITY, TRADE, MINISTERIAL MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 sep 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978SEOUL07922
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780362-0645
Format: TEL
From: SEOUL
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780998/aaaadctt.tel
Line Count: 69
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 1a73fa56-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 SEOUL 7851
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1530353
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FOREIGN MINISTER'S VIEWS ON KOREA-JAPAN MINISTERIAL MEETING
TAGS: PEPR, JA, KS, (PARK TONG CHIN)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/1a73fa56-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014